

Massey, Dean

From: Chief Lowell Humphrey [lhumphrey@cantonpd.org]
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2006 12:18 PM
To: Chief Lowell Humphrey
Cc: Massey, Dean
Subject: Re: Raised Bill 5648: Municipal Employees Responding to Fire Calls

----- Original Message -----

From: Chief Lowell Humphrey
To: Prague@senatedems.ct.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2006 1:45 PM
Subject: Raised Bill 5648: Municipal Employees Responding to Fire Calls

Dear Senator Prague,

I'm a former volunteer fire chief, and longtime law enforcement officer, in the same town which I now serve as police chief.

I recognize and appreciate the efforts to staff volunteer fire departments but it shouldn't be to the detriment of other public safety agencies.

I've utilized federal funding to increase police staffing in my rapidly growing town. It defies logic that my legislature would take any action which serves to reduce it.

My personnel serve as first responders to fire & medical calls. In conjunction with law enforcement responsibilities we actually get busier when a fire call comes in.

In reality I need more than my minimum staffing of 2 in order to provide adequate public safety services at these times.

(Think rescue, first aid, traffic control, investigation etc. etc.)

My personal opinion is that this bill involves an issue best left to local control. Who better knows the local impact ??

At the minimum please EXEMPT municipal employees whose regular employment already involves public safety.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Lowell Humphrey
Chief of Police
Town of Canton

3/7/2006